Amdt. dated March 11, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 14, 2004

**Amendments to the Claims:** 

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

**Listing of Claims:** 

Claim 1 (amended) A restraint device for controlling a driver's head during a vehicle

collision, comprising:

a member;

a tether attached to said member and attached to a helmet; and

a strap attached to said member and attached to an anchor a vehicle seat belt

assembly; and

wherein the seat belt assembly anchors the driver's head to control movement of

the driver's head during a vehicle collision.

Claims 2-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (amended) The restraint device in accordance with claim [[11]] 1 wherein at

least a portion of said strap is positioned between the driver's legs when the restraint

device is in place on the driver.

Claims 13 (amended) The restraint device in accordance with claim [[11]] 1 wherein at

least a portion of said strap is positioned over the driver's torso when the restraint device

is in place on the driver.

Claims 14 (amended) The restraint device in accordance with claim [[12]] 1 wherein at

least a portion of said strap is positioned at least partially around near the driver's waist

when the restraint device is in place on the driver.

Claims 15-20 (canceled)

4

Claim 21 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the vehicle seat

belt assembly includes a cam lock and said strap is attached to said cam lock.

Claim 22 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 21 wherein the driver is

freed from being secured to the vehicle by releasing said strap from said cam lock.

Claim 23 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the vehicle seat

belt assembly includes a lap belt and said strap is attached at the lap belt.

Claim 24 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 23 wherein said restraint

device and the driver are freed from being secured to the vehicle by uncoupling the lap

belt.

Claim 25 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the vehicle seat

belt assembly includes a shoulder belt and said strap is attached at the shoulder belt.

Claim 26 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 25 wherein said restraint

device and the driver are freed from being secured to the vehicle by uncoupling the

shoulder belt.

Claim 27 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 1 wherein the vehicle seat

belt assembly includes a cam lock and said strap is attached to the seat belt assembly by

said cam lock and wherein said restraint device and the driver are freed from being

secured to the vehicle by releasing said strap from said cam lock and wherein said driver

may egress from the vehicle while said restraint device is attached to and being carried by

the driver.

Claim 28 (new) A restraint device for controlling a driver's head during a vehicle

collision, comprising:

5

Appl. No. 10/728,003 Docket 147E-0142CIP

Amdt. dated March 11, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 14, 2004

a rigid member;

a tether attached to said rigid member and attached to a helmet;

a strap attached to said rigid member and attached to a part of the driver's body;

and

wherein the driver's body anchors the driver's head to control movement of the

driver's head during a vehicle collision.

Claim 29 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 28 wherein the part of the

driver's body to which said strap is attached is the driver's torso.

Claim 30 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 29 wherein said restraint

device is not attached to a vehicle seat belt assembly and wherein the driver and the

restraint device are freed from being secured to the vehicle by releasing the driver from

the vehicle seat belt assembly.

Claim 31 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 28 wherein the part of the

driver's body to which said strap is attached is the driver's legs.

Claim 32 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 31 wherein said restraint

device is not attached to a vehicle seat belt assembly and wherein the driver and the

restraint device are freed from being secured to the vehicle by releasing the driver from

the vehicle seat belt assembly.

Claim 33 (new) The restraint device in accordance with claim 28 wherein said restraint

device is attached only to the driver's body.

Claim 34 (new) An apparatus for controlling a driver's head during a vehicle collision,

comprising:

a vehicle having a seat belt assembly;

a restraint device comprising a member, a tether attached to said member and

6

Appl. No. 10/728,003 Amdt. dated March 11, 2005

Reply to Office action of December 14, 2004

attached to a helmet, and a strap attached to said member and to said seat belt assembly;

wherein the seat belt assembly and restraint device cooperate to control the movement of a driver's head during a vehicle collision; and

wherein said restraint device and the driver are freed from said seat belt assembly and from being secured to the vehicle by releasing said vehicle seat belt assembly.

Claim 35 (new) The apparatus in accordance with claim 34 wherein said vehicle seat belt assembly includes a lap belt, and wherein said strap is attached at said lap belt, and wherein the driver and said restraint device are freed from said seat belt assembly and from being secured to the vehicle by opening said lap belt.

Claim 36 (new) The apparatus in accordance with claim 34 wherein said vehicle seat belt assembly includes a lap belt and a cam lock, and wherein the driver and said restraint device are freed from said seat belt assembly and from being secured to the vehicle by releasing said strap from said cam lock.